



STATE OF DELAWARE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

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**Summary Minutes
Juvenile Justice Advisory Group
Wednesday, January 31, 2018
10:00AM -11:00 AM**

**University of Delaware Good Stay Center
2600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, DE**

Committee Members: Michael Arrington (Chair), Hon. Michael Newell (Family Court), Abigail Layton (Attorney General), Lisa Minutola (Chief Defender), Com. David Jones (Judicial Officer), Brian Moore (Dept. of Education), Jacqueline Mette (Secretary of Services DSCYF), Nancy Dietz (DSCYF-DYRS), Kimberly Chandler (Homeland Security), Chief Robert Tracey (Wilmington PD), Capt. Peter Sawyer (DSP), Gregory Fuller (Public Member), James Kane (Public Member), Joe Garcia (Public Member), Melissa Dill (Public Member), Gwendolyn Scott-Jones (Public Member), Shamia Turlington (Public Member), Julisa Quixchan (Public Member Youth), Angelis Olivo (Public Member Youth), Jane Lyons (Public Member Youth), and Morgan Smith (Public Member Youth)

CJC and SAC Staff: Cliffvon Howell (CJC), Scott McLaren (CJC), Rosemarie Griesmer (CJC), and Monica Celli (CJC)

Public Attendees: *None*

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

- I. Discussion and Approval of By Laws for Juvenile Justice Advisory Group**
Mr. Arrington asked that everyone take a few moments to review a draft version of by-laws for the group that was included in the list of materials (binder) circulated during the meeting. Mr. Arrington told the group an electronic version of the by-laws would be e-mailed so members could make recommendations.
- II. Approval of Minutes from previous JJAG Meeting**
(N/A) –January 31, 2018 was the first meeting of the reauthorized JJAG.
- III. Federal Issues**
Mr. Howell gave a brief overview of the CJC federal program portfolio. A list was provided in the 2018 JJAG Manual (binder). Mr. Howell informed the committee that

the Federal Title II (3-Year Plan) funding notice is expected to be released in the near future. Mr. Howell described the correlation between the Title II (3-Year Plan) and the juvenile justice programs funded via the CJC. Mr. Howell also introduced Kristen Kracke, Federal Project Officer-OJJDP Title II Programs. Specific to the upcoming 3-Year Plan, Mr. Howell informed the group that the new 3-Year Plan guidance will contain more stringent language requiring State Advisory Groups to be more involved with the development of the plans and to also approach the 3-Year Plans in a manner that more closely resembles a strategic planning process. Mr. Howell informed the committee that priorities for purpose areas contained in the 3-Year Plan must be set by the JJAG. Mr. Arrington noted that subgroups will be formed to assist in the development of the plan. Ms. Minutola asked if JJAG members can have a proxy attend the subgroups. Mr. Arrington affirmed members can have a proxy participate on subcommittees.

Mr. Arrington stated that there was a hold-over funding decision for some FFY 2016 funds. He added that \$40,000 was set aside for an evaluation of the Civil Citation program and needs the authorization of this JJAG in order to move forward with a contract because the previous JJAG's authorization does not carry over to this body. Ms. Minutola asked who is doing the evaluation. Mr. Howell responded that Dr. Dorothy Dillard is currently working with DSCYF-YRS, so she is familiar with the agency and may have a more global look for the evaluation. Ms. Minutola stated that a recidivism study would be beneficial. Mr. Howell responded that the JJAG can dictate what is studied. After a brief discussion regarding the funding break-down chart for FFY2016 with Mr. Fuller, Mr. Moore motioned to approve. Cpt. Sawyer seconded. Mr. Arrington noted that all approved the motion to approve, and he abstained.

Ms. Griesmer provided an update on ODS and YRS grants. She explained that ODS is in its implementation year, and has quarterly committee meetings and subgroups. Ms. Griesmer added that the grant has implemented post-disposition representation and expungements throughout the state. The YRS Statewide Improvement grant has Renee Ciconte and Theresa Sedeveck as committee chairs and will be establishing working groups. She added that they would like to purchase the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Youth Training Curriculum that builds understanding and rapport between youth and law enforcement for \$25,000.

Ms. Griesmer explained that funds are available, but must be authorized first. Future spending will have a large approval plan. Mr. Arrington responded that he does not want ad hoc funding requests presented at the JJAG meetings and that they can consult the Executive Committee before spending. Ms. Minutola asked if the PA Law Enforcement Youth Training Curriculum has train the trainer modules. Ms. Griesmer replied that it does. Mr. Arrington requested memos be produced. Ms. Dietz asked if this was implemented with Philadelphia police and stated that it would be helpful to have someone from law enforcement on that committee.

IV. Policy

Mr. Arrington shifted focus to policy and noted that juvenile crime is a civil matter. He stated that there should be education about conflict resolution and this should start with the parents. Mr. Kane emphasized holistic approaches towards youth and used the Nativity School as an example. He added to look at the legislature and that they should focus on something bigger than boutique issues like bail reform. Mr. Smith added that he attended the Nativity School and can attest to the value of the holistic approach towards education because there are many examples of traditional models and policies that failed the juveniles in terms of education.

Ms. Minutola stated that if they can prevent youth from coming in (the system), they can focus resources on those who do enter the system.

Mr. Moore explained that the DOE started working with the CDC to target 10 schools in the state for a continuum of services and trauma informed care. He would like to see these tied together and a statewide reform. Mr. Fuller noted that educating parents on positive parenting before the child is 18 months old is important and effective. Ms. Scott-Jones would like to see primary prevention for everyone. Com. Jones stated that communities and families must be strengthened and the focus can't be on individual juveniles if they are being sent back to broken areas. He would like to see focus on engaging parents, fathers specifically, with their children. He stated both parents should be encouraged to be involved. Ms. Olivos stated that parents should be counseled as well as children. She explained both child and parent should get the services when the child touches the system. Mr. Howell stated that DMC looks at the school to prison pipeline. Ms. Minutola noted that the Access to Justice Fairness Committee is looking at this and JJAG should ensure that this committee has JJAG members.

Mr. Arrington asked Ms. Minutola to explain HB204. Ms. Minutola explained that this has been passed and signed and affects bail for adults. It moves the system away from monetary bail as the only way to release someone, as it is not effective. Conditions of release are not linked with pay and she would like to examine this for youth. In the case of the most serious felonies, it can be determined if the individual gets no bail. Ms. Minutola motioned for a subcommittee that reviews juvenile bail. Ms. Layton, Com. Jones, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Quixchan volunteered for this committee. Mr. Kane added that it is good for the committee to know all funding and the percentage that goes to kids.

V. New/Old Business

Without anything further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

VI. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,
Cliffvon Howell

Juvenile Justice Specialist
Notes Compiled by: Monica Celli